

Oregon Synod, ELCA Bishop Job Description

Eligibility:

- Must be minister of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- Must be able to be based from the location of the Oregon Synod Bishop's Office in Portland, OR

Six-year term, starts August 1, 2025

1) Acts as the pastor of the Oregon Synod, and in this capacity:

- Preaches, teaches, and administers the sacraments.
- Has primary responsibility for the ministry of Word and Sacrament in this synod and its congregations, providing pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations, its ministers of Word and Sacrament, and its ministers of Word and Service.
- Ordains (or provide for the ordination of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued letter of call.
- Installs (or provides for the installation of) rostered ministers.
- Attests letters of call for persons called to serve congregations in the synod, those called by the Synod Council, and for those on the synod roster called by the Church Council.
- Exercises leadership in the mission of this church and in so doing:
 - Interprets and advocates the mission and theology of the whole church;
 - Leads in fostering support for and commitment to the mission of this church within this synod;
 - Coordinates the use of available synod resources as it seeks to promote the health of this church's life and witness in the areas served by this synod;
 - Submits a report to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly concerning the synod's life and work; and

- Advises and counsels this synod's related institutions and organizations.
- Practices leadership in strengthening the unity of the Church and in so doing:
 - Exercises oversight of the preaching, teaching, and administration of the sacraments within this synod in accord with the Confession of Faith of this church.
 - Is responsible for administering the constitutionally established processes for the resolution of controversies and for the discipline of rostered ministers and congregations of this synod.
 - Is the chief ecumenical officer of this synod.
 - Is a member of the Conference of Bishops and consult regularly with other synod bishops.
 - Fosters awareness of other churches throughout the Lutheran world communion and, where appropriate, engage in contact with leaders of those churches.
 - Cultivates communion in faith and mission with appropriate Christian judicatory leaders functioning within the territory of this synod
 - Is an *ex officio* member of the Churchwide Assembly.

2) Administration

- Serves as the president and CEO of the Oregon Synod, ELCA corporation.
- Presides at all meetings of the Synod Assembly and provide for the preparation of the agenda for the Synod Assembly, Synod Council, and the council's Executive Committee;
- Ensures that the constitution and bylaws of the synod and of the churchwide organization are observed within this synod, and that the aligned actions of the synod are put into effect;

- Directs and guides the work of the other officers (Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and supervises the work of bishop's assistant(s) and synod staff members;
- Appoints all committees for which provision is not otherwise made;
- Is a member of all committees and any other organizational units of the synod, except as otherwise provided in the synod constitution;
- Maintains the roster of active, on leave from call, disability, and retired ministers:
 - provides for preparation and maintenance of synod rosters with names and addresses of all rostered ministers of this synod and a record of the calls under which they are serving or the date on which their retired or disability status took effect;
 - annually brings to the attention of the Synod Council the names of all rostered ministers on leave from call in conformity with the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of this church and pursuant to prior action of this synod through the Synod Council;
 - provides for prompt reporting to the secretary of this church of:
 - additions and subtractions from the rosters of this synod;
 - the issuance of transfers for rostered ministers in good standing who have received and accepted a properly issued and attested letter of call under the jurisdiction of another synod; and
 - the entrance to the synod roster of such persons for whom proper certificates of transfer have been received;
 - provides for preparation and maintenance of a roster of the congregations of this synod and the names of the laypersons who have been elected to represent them; and
 - appoints a statistician of the synod, who shall secure the reports of the congregations and make the reports available to the secretary of this church for collation,

analysis, and distribution of the statistical summaries to this synod and the other synods of this church.